BRITISH MUSEUM

Workers' Dreadnought

ORGAN OF THE COMMUNIST PARTY.

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OFFICIAL LABOUR AT PORTSMOUTH.

By Our Special Correspondent.

In view of impending crises in the industrial world, one would naturally expect to see signs indicative of the serious situation in the great gathering of Trade Union delegates that assembled at Portsmouth last week. But one was doomed to disappointment; there was no evidence that the average men whom millions of organised workers sent to Portsmouth to give expression to their thoughts and desires, took their mission seriously. The undercurrent of deep feeling may have been there, but the proceedings of the Conference were so skilfully managed by the President, Mr. J. H. Thomas, that it never came to the surface. Throughout the week, the big guns were placed in strategic places dominating the deliberations. It wouldn't be fair to say that the little guns were silenced; one never knew if they wanted to bark! The whole tenor of the debates was in keeping with the President's opening speech. Readers of the *Dreadnought* may have read it in the dailies. Whenever it seemed that things were not going to run in the officially calm and quiet way, the President would intervene with a few suave remarks, pronounce the benediction, and succeed in drawing the necessary "Amen" from the floor.

A Corrupt Parliamentary Committee.

As was to be expected, Robert Smillie among the delegates was veritably a Saul in Israel, and when he stood up on Tuesday, gaunt and harassed, to lecture the President and Congress about the corrupt methods of selecting candidates for the Parliamentary Committee, he seemed somewhat contemptuous of the prolonged cheering that greeted him. He exposed the pernicious practice of canvassing the members and bartering votes, and pointed out that the recommendation of the Glasgow Congress, advocating a new system of balloting, had been shelved by the P.C. The rank and file of Labour, he declared, were bought and sold on the market by their own elected leaders. The Miners' Federation would not countenance canvassing and bartering, therefore they were not represented on last year's Committee. The same thing may happen again this year, for, although he was a candidate, he would not stoop to be elected by corrupt methods, and the most powerful Trade Union may be deprived of direct representation on the Committee during a time of grave industrial unrest, on account of dishonest practices. Despite Smillie's passionate protest, there seems to have been no change in the electoral scheme, but he has challenged the vote for the newly-elected Committee.

The Mind of the Official Machine.

It must be said that there was a keen desire among different sections of the Congress to discuss the miners' claims, but the official machine was determined that no general discussion should take place, and so perfect was the working of this machinery, that such a mishap never occurred. On Wednesday, Frank Hodges gave, from the platform, a *résumé* of the miners' case. The inevitable resolution, "that the claims were just and should be conceded forthwith" was submitted and passed unanimously. One cannot remember how often the President soothingly reminded the Congress that it should not make threats when organised labour is not prepared to carry them out. The effect on the floor was remarkable, even miraculous; the delegates were hypnotised. The question of the Russian Trade Union delegates who were held up at Christiania was brought up on Tuesday and Wednesday. Robert Williams still remains an enigma. He spoke valiantly and violently against the Government's unjust action. But Robert Smillie said the only convincing thing when, answering Havelock Wilson's charge about conscription of labour and soldiers in Russia, he stated, that the Russians having conscripted land and wealth for the workers, have the right to conscript labour for defensive purposes. Tom Mann spoke powerfully and earnestly, even as he did at the Theatre Royal on Sunday night, when he pleaded for industrial and international solidarity, and closed the meeting by leading off in the singing of "The Red Flag." Russia had simply done what we kept on talking about. The workers control industry and administer affairs. We shall yet have to grapple with the same economic problems here. We must learn from the Russians. He again demonstrated his passion for working-class solidarity on Friday when he spoke on the emergency resolution dealing with the lock-out of the E.T.U. The electricians and engineers should be in one great union, said Tom Mann, but now that a crisis had arisen, the A.E.U. had officially notified its members not to touch any work that was formerly done by members of the E.T.U., and he hoped they would remain faithful to their charge. Still, the Russian comrades are not with us; they must either return to their own country, or wait in Christiania until a General Election puts the abour Party in power; their being kept out by the Government does not need commenting on. The Portsmouth Congress has just declared that the British Labour Movement is the greatest in the world, yet its leaders cannot secure admission into this country for a delegation of Russian workers, though recently some of them and their bourgeois friends were allowed to visit Soviet Russia, shown every courtesy and consideration by the workers there, and their official organ has just received a munificent gift of money from the Bolshevists! This is surely a test of Labour's strength. Weak Italy could show us how to make use of our strength. She would have compelled her Government to surrender without dislocating industry or raising a ripple of public resentment.

One wondered if the Congress had any grasp of economic realities. Clynes was vociferously cheered for making the silly statement that "the nation must return to the pre-war basis of finance and credit." Any fifth form boy knows that this can only be done through the smashing of Trade Unionism by Capitalism and the ushering in of an era of world-wide unemployment and the worst form of degradation and poverty. The same speaker was also applauded for opposing a General Staff and advocating a one-big-union of Trade Union Officials. The Congress is "over and ended." The Government is in the air. The Labour leaders are riding the Parliamentary horse—perhaps to its final death. And organised Labour should realise that it is being used solely for opportunist and political purposes.

EDUCATED RUSSIAN, thorough knowledge of Russian, French, German and English, seeks FULL or PART TIME EMPLOYMENT; experienced organiser and translator; gives lessons. — For terms, apply to Box 75.

TO CLASS-CONSCIOUS TRADE UNIONISTS AND INDUSTRIALISTS.

"The Communist Party is a section of the Working Class. To be more precise, its most advanced, its most class-conscious, and therefore its most revolutionary section. The Communist Party is created by the selection of the best, most class-conscious, most devoted, most far-seeing workers. The Communist Party has no interests distinct from those of the Working Class. The Communist Party is distinguished from the general mass of the workers by the fact that it reviews the whole historical development of the working class in its entirety, and strives, at every turning point in that path, to defend the interests not of separate groups, not of separate professions, but of the working class as a whole. The Communist Party is that lever of political organisation with the help of which the foremost section of the working class guides along the right road the whole mass of the proletariat and the semi-proletariat."

A FACTORY

The Workers without Employers can carry on by themselves. | But what will the Employers do without the Workers?

With the extract from the thesis of the Executive Committee of the Third International, the Communist Party, British Section of the Third International, is completely in agreement. When we review the conditions in this country we see at once that several immediate deductions may be made relative to the composition of a Communist Party for this country. The most advanced, the most class-conscious, the most revolutionary section of the working class of Britain, where are they? Was the majority of them ever in the B.S.P., the S.P.G.B. or the I.L.P. (Left wing or Right wing), in the W.S.F., or even in the S.L.P.? Nonsense. The vast bulk of the most advanced, most class-conscious, most revolutionary section of the working-class of this country has always been outside all these organisations and linked up behind the Workshop Movement, where it still is. Behind the "Worker," behind "Solidarity," inside the B.W.I.U. and kindred organisations, throughout the Shop Steward and Workers' Committee Movements, the Miners' Unofficial Reform Committees, that is where the vast majority of true proletarians is to be found, and it is for this reason that any Communist Party which is not dominated by these elements, according to the Moscow definition, is only the ghost of a Communist Party.

We ourselves are the nucleus of a party, but we are founded aright, in line on tactics and principle with the vast bulk of the proletarian class warriors of the country, who have always been completely opposed to any foolery of Parliament or alliance with Labour fakirs.

Even a complete alliance of the B.S.P., W.S.F., I.L.P., S.P.G.B., S.L.P:, all together would have had no right to call itself a genuine Communist Party, and pretended to Moscow that they represented the revolutionary strength of the country. The majority of genuine proletarians would still have been outside such a combination. As to our Maiden Lane friends, it is impossible to pretend they are a Communist Party even in nucleus. They are a very nice petty-bourgeois party, kindly saying the things Moscow wants them to say, and I believe honestly endeavouring to do the things Moscow wants them to do.

In accusihg this Party of being petty-bourgeois and not genuinely communistic, I shall be asked to prove my assertion. Nothing easier. Let us have the replies to these questions. What is the wage, salary, honorarium, of Comrades MacManus,

(Continued on page two.)

The Labour Situation in Maligned Russia.

Since the newspaper press of the world has spread misleading and false reports about conditions in Soviet Russia, the telegraph bureau *Rosta*, is now using every opportunity to obtain the most exact information possible from the foremost representative of the trade unions in Russia, the former Minister of Labour, Alexander Schlapnikov, who kindly gave us an interview before his departure from Stockholm last Saturday.

One of the most frequently repeated lies which has obtained wide circulation, is the assertion that a twelve-hour working day has been enforced upon the workers of Soviet Russia. Although *Rosta* has received daily reports direct from Moscow to the effect that in various parts of Russia, in factories, mills, and other workshops, the workers themselves have voluntarily decided to extend the working day, yet even when these reports have been printed, the newspapers have given them misleading headlines in order to create false impressions about notices which have been correctly printed.

Our first enquiry directed to Mr. Schlapnikov was, therefore: "What are the real facts in connection with the length of the working day in Soviet Russia?" He gave us the following answer: "The question as to the length of the working day is in every case solved by the trades unions of that particular trade, and with the approval of the workers in that particular industry. As a general rule, the question of the lengthening of the working day beyond eight hours, has come up very rarely. The attempt to increase labour productivity by lengthening working hours is not at all the last word in the labour policy of Russia. On the contrary, we strive to use every expedient which will increase production by utilising labour power and technical means, such as machinery, within the eight-hour working day and seven hours of night work. The increase of labour productivity, by increasing the number of working hours per day was used principally in the sphere of strictly war industry, and all time over the eight-hour day was paid for at the rate of one and a half the normal rate, and in addition, special prizes were given for the increased production resulting therefrom. The workers could not be compelled, naturally, to work beyond that standard set by the decree of the eight-hour day, but class instincts, and the desire to defend the Republic against its enemies and against economic ruin, spurred the workers to a voluntary increase of their working intensity by every means at their disposal."

Our second question was: "What is the truth in regard to the conflicts between the workers and the Soviet powers, which certain papers have called 'hair raising?'"

"As far as statements about bloody conflicts between the workers and the Soviet power are concerned, and about any repressive influence or authority of the Soviet power, these statements are simply lies. During the civil war, the working class was, to a large extent, deprived of its best developed members, who either joined voluntarily or were mobilised into the ranks of the Red Army to fight on the fronts. This naturally decreased the level of the conscious intelligence of the workers of the factories and mills, as well as their numbers. The working class, like every other aggregation of human beings, is not without its 'black sheep,' and even among us there were a few counter-revolutionists, as well as provocateurs left from the old Czarist times, especially among the former officers, and the bourgeoisie, who took positions at factories and elsewhere, merely to conduct counter-revolutionary activities. On account of the lack of food and the activities of these provocateurs, there have been strikes at Moscow and at Petrograd, and attempts have even been made to destroy industrial establishments, such as the water supply of Petrograd, in the spring of 1919. But all these conflicts were solved by the forces and means of the labour organisations, the Soviets, the trade unions, and the factory committees. All these strikes were of short-lived character, and nowhere was the interference of the military power necessary. Just here, I may remind you that the guarding of the factories of the war industry has been, in every instance, entrusted to the labour administration of the workers, all of whom have realised the responsibility of defending the property of their Republic against the attempts of the counter-revolutionists to destroy it.

"Those who assert that the labour administration in industrial enterprises in Soviet Russia has 'gone bankrupt' are wrong," Schlapnikov continued. "The facts are the contrary. The labour administration has saved industry from ruin, that ruin which impends wherever capitalist sabotage and speculation lead. The labour administration has obtained great importance, and the sphere of its influence widens daily. The labour organisations have now many thousands of active administrators at their disposal. The intelligentsia takes, in the form of technical and administrative direction, a most active part in industry and in the work of the trade unions. The engineers within the metal industry have amalgamated into a special section, with the metal organisations of all Russia.

"The unity principle in its literal meaning does not exist with us. All the larger industries are conducted by responsible labour administrators, who are elected by the labour organisations. All industrial enterprises of a complicated kind, are conducted by councils, but subordinate branches, or factories and mills of a simpler nature, and for less complicated production, are occasionally conducted by individuals in connection with responsible administrators appointed by the trade unions. As a rule, I might say, that where important decisions in regard to the administration of mills must be made, a council assists, but at those mills which have only to execute the decisions of the head administrators, even individuals, or directors, or administrators, may be personally responsible for the accomplishment of the programme of production. Labourers may act as directors."

Our last question concerned the transportation system in Russia.

"We have, during the past year," Schlapnikov said, "taken prompt measures as to our rolling-stock, and particularly engines. For the present, we have succeeded in stopping the continuing increase of disabled engines. The railroad factories are now reorganised according to new factory principles. Up to recent times, they have been in the hands of the specific railroad bureaucracy, well-known for its routine and hostility to everything that does not bear the seal of the head office. Nowadays, we employ our best qualified labour and administrative forces for the transport department, and with the arrival of oil from Grosny and Baku, transport is greatly improving, and the results of our activity, within the next few months, will make a better showing still. The first and greatest improvement will occur when we are able to renew our entire rolling-stock, and especially engines, of which twenty-five per cent. are between twenty and fifty years old. A great number of engines are ready, in America, for our railroads, and the Americans have been compelled to build special storehouses for them, on account of the difference in the rail-width of the roads.—*Soviet Russia*, from *Folkets Dagblad Politiken*, April 22nd, 1920.

(Continued from page one.)

Inkpin, Steward, Cant, Ebury? Let us see whether they are truly at the workers' wage, and whether their ideas and class position, as reflected from their income and their manner of getting it, puts them truly with the mass of the proletarians. Secondly, what is the income, and what the manner of getting it, of each of the thirteen members of the Executive Committee of Maiden Lane? We shall soon see whether they are genuinely proletarian or not. Now, comrades, nobody wants to "sabotage" unity, as these petty-bourgeois will shriek; instead we are determined to secure a "real" unity, of genuine proletarians, and not a paper unity of political diletantes. For Britain, with its strong industrial unionist movement, where the mass of the genuine proletarians have put their efforts, a Communist Party has to be dominated and run by such industrialists. Industrial power and industrial mass action will be far greater weapons over here than in Russia, and Moscow has to realise this. The "Workers' Dreadnought," "Solidarity," "The Spur," and "The Worker," it is round these four papers that the vast majority of genuine proletarians have gathered. The "Socialist" and the "Call" have elements, too, though the latter has always been cursed with the petty-bourgeoisism of social-democracy. A combination of the elements of the first four, uniting the anti-parliamentary strength of the country, if necessary with four official organs—but at any rate a real working party unity, working much more on the industrial field than at the street corner, is the first need of Britain for genuine proletarian unity. Then the anti-parliamentarians will be in a position to talk to Maiden Lane. We may achieve this unity—we on our side shall spare no effort or sacrifice to attain it. The decision rests with the rank and file. But genuine proletarians will never waste their energies by putting them behind a machine, doomed from its inception to impotence from faulty construction.

EDGAR T. WHITEHEAD.

When you have finished with this copy of the "Dreadnought," kindly pass it on to a friend.

GREAT BRITAIN: CHIEF DOPE DEALER.

Ellen La Motte is an American nurse who served in France during the late war. She suddenly sprung into prominence by her realistic work, "The Backwash of War," which has been published in America and compared by some critics with Bailuni's "Under Fire." Since then she has visited the East, and in her recent work, "The Opium Monopoly," she ruthlessly exposes the British capitalists and the Government of India, and shows how they hold sway over India and China by making drug fiends of the population.

The opium industry is centred in India. Ellen La Motte shows that for 1916 and 1917 the total revenue, including excise duties, from the sale of opium, was £118,799,968. She shows how the drug companies gloat over the fact that the consumption of opium is on the increase. Successive Chinese governments have fought against the expansion of the trade, but without success. The Chinese officials are outwitted by the British capitalists, who, aided by the Imperial Government, set up spheres of influence over which the foreigners have complete control. These so-called international settlements are contiguous to the native territories, and the natives are free to cross the boundaries to obtain drugs. Miss La Motte shows that £3,000,000 was derived from the export of opium from India into the Chinese Treaty ports. The Chinese are bound by treaty to countenance the trade. While England encourages the trade in India, China and the South Sea Islands, the ports of Great Britain and the predominantly white colonies of Canada, Australia and South Africa are closed to it. Here in London an extensive, illicit trading in the opium drug is carried on in Limehouse, of which the authorities are fully cognisant. Those who are familiar with the opium haunts along the West India Docks know that the police are quite aware of their existence; but they are never raided while they keep within bounds: that is, while they do not allow white customers. Miss La Motte shows that, among other evils, the 300,000,000 people of India are systematically doped by English capitalists, in order that they may be ruled and exploited for profits. Her statistics are taken from British Blue Books.

EX-SERVICEMEN AND WORK, WAR AND PEACE.

There seems to be an epidemic of unity and amalgamation meetings abroad. And one is led to be suspicious of the influence behind many of the advocates of unity. A great effort has recently been made to amalgamate the three largest bodies of ex-servicemen, but happily it has failed. The National Union has definitely set its face against any of its members joining the Territorials, or any other service of an imperialistic nature, and it has also gone on record as endorsing the issue of the class-war. Well done, exploited yellow workers; for you discharged soldiers and sailors of the ranks are nothing more or less!

King George, Earl Haig, and other titled and untitled creatures, who are not entitled to their stolen goods, write lovely letters about the country's "Debt of Honour" to you. But they are not willing to forego a part of their salaries, pensions and profits for your benefit. The Government tries to set you against organised labour by telling you that labour will not make room for you in the industries. The Government would use you as a pretext to reduce wages, smash the Trades Unions and usher in an era when, instead of thousands, millions of workers would be unemployed, fighting and competing with each other for a job, forced, through hunger and want, to surrender their rights and forget their class interests.

At present conditions are bad enough. Besides you ex-soldiers and sailors, there are hundreds of your fellow-workers, trades unionists, out of work. By pressing for higher wages and shorter hours, the revolutionaries in the Trades Unions are fighting your fight. Unemployment forces you to think, and to realise that these terrible conditions will remain so long as the manufacturing and landed wealth of this country is in the hands of a vicious and exploiting class. It is too late to save the system, it cannot be done except by destroying the Trades Unions and by reducing the great army of British workers to a worse stage of degradation and wage-slavery. There remains but one way out—the Russian way of Revolution and Communism. E.C.

The Working Woman, the Peasant Woman, and the Soviet Power. By G. ZINOVIEV.

A Speech by Comrade G. Zinoviev at the Congress of Working and Peasant Women of the Northern Communes.

Published by the Petrograd Soviet of Workers and Red Army Delegates in 1919.

Women Must Organise.

I have been told that in some villages at the time of the election of peasant women delegates to the Women's Congress, men were inclined to consider the whole affair as a huge joke. Their attitude can be summed up somewhat as follows: "let the women play at election, they cannot do any harm, anyhow." The same attitude could be observed in some towns and factories. I am truly sorry that, at least, some of these workers and peasants are not present at this assembly, for I should have liked to tell them how stupid it is not to understand what is actually taking place, and to treat the Women's Congress as a laughing matter.

I could well understand the representatives of the rich—the bankers, the former landlords, gendarmes and village police chiefs making fun of the Women's Congress. They, of course, would pretend to laugh in order to disguise their fears. But such an attitude does no credit to workers and peasants, for the working peasant women are a very considerable part of our population. Our revolution could not have been victorious had it not been for the support of the working women. The men must realise that we should not have got very far with our revolution if the women workers had refused, for any length of time, to take part in our struggle.

The Women of Narva—A Bulwark of the Revolution.

Not so very long ago, I happened to be present in Narva, at a meeting of working men and women. The meeting was held in a church (Kirka), and women were in a majority. I addressed the audience from the pulpit, usually occupied by the pastor, a man hated by the population, as one of the worst "kulaks" (village profiteer). An orchestra of soldiers and sailors had taken the place of the organ and was playing the song of labour and freedom—the "International"—instead of the usual hymns. When I saw how the women, who were (I say it once more), in a majority, were listening, and were, so to speak, drinking in the "International"—our song of universal brotherhood, how they hated the landlord and the bourgeoisie, how they were not afraid of arousing the ire of the "good God" by listening in a church to speeches against the high and mighty of the land—I came to the conclusion that the days of the bourgeoisie were numbered. If its last bulwark—the backward female population, accustomed as it was from infancy to obey the clergy, could now quite calmly listen to Socialists and to the songs of Communism, then indeed, the bourgeois order was nearing its end!

A Religious Demonstration and the Backward Women.

A few days ago, a big demonstration was held in Petrograd, in memory of Karl Liebknecht and Rosa Luxemburg, in which working men and women, soldiers and sailors, participated. The Petrograd priests had organised on the same day, their own street demonstration—a church procession. It is true that there were only a few hundred participants in their procession, but it was painful to observe that most of them were women. Yes, it must be admitted that the backward women of our working and peasant population are the last bulwark and the last reserve of the bourgeoisie.

A Women's Congress—An Absolute Necessity.

It is for such reasons, and not to while away the time or to provide amusement, that we have convened this Congress. First of all we called an All-Russian Women's Congress in Moscow, and now we have convened in Petrograd a Congress of peasant and working women of the Northern Region—in order that in every district and in every village, there should be a group of class-conscious women, who are indispensible to us in the colossal work of rebuilding society on a revolutionary basis.

Therefore, I am glad to see the splendid response to our invitation from the villages of the Northern Region, and I bid you welcome in the name of all conscious workers, peasants, and Red Guards, who do not laugh at the idea of a Women's Congress, but who understand that co-operation with the women workers is absolutely necessary, and that the question of the daily bread cannot be solved without the help of the women. I say it again, we are glad to see you here, for it is a sign that our forces have grown, and that our reserve consists of millions of women of the working class. Therefore, we need not mind very much if some "superior" people indulge in feeble jokes at what they are pleased to call a "mothers' meeting."

Have done with all such nonsense, for we are living in times when even the most backward peasant women, instead of spending their time in gossiping with the neighbours, must take an interest in the events in their own and other countries. We have reached a period which, perhaps, occurs only once in a thousand years, for not only Petrograd and Moscow, but the whole of humanity is changing its mode of life, and is creating and building up a new life and a new world order. It must be felt everywhere, even in the remotest corners of our vast country, that a new life is in the making, and we cannot have a new life if the woman remains in shackes, as is still the case in most of our villages. That very peasant who laughs in his beard at the very mention of a Women's Congress is, quite unconsciously, a slave-driver. He looks upon himself as a working peasant, but in his veins flows the blood of the slave-owners, who maintained "that women had no souls." We must catch hold of such a peasant and we must force him to reflect upon what is going on. We must reason with him in all publicity, and make it at last clear to him that the working woman is just such a worker as he is. It is high time for him to forget that man is a class quite apart, that he alone is called upon to care about politics and Socialism. . . . Make way for the women!

Your Tasks.

Comrades, I assume that it is the duty of each group of women to concentrate, not only upon minor matters and current events, but also upon the wide questions which are now occupying the attention of the whole world. It does not matter in the least that there have come into this Congress tens, nay, hundreds of peasant women who, up to yesterday, did not even know of the existence and the whereabouts of other countries, such as England, America, Japan and Italy, most of them just knew about their village and their district, for many of you have not even been to a provincial town.

Up till now you have lived in ignorance; speaking generally, the peasants were so backward, and their enemies were so anxious that they should remain so, that the majority of the peasant population did not know anything outside their own homes, their own village, and in some cases, their own district. But now the time has come to look around, and to take an interest in what is going on, not only in one's own district and province, and not only in our vast country, known as Russia, but in a large number of other countries as well. I wish to impress upon you, that we must take an interest in these things, not out of mere curiosity, but because this knowledge is as essential to us as our daily bread. The time has come when we must understand what is going on in the wide world, and when we cannot shut our eyes to the happenings in other lands. We have had a war which dragged on for four and a half years. Is there a single person among us whom the war has not affected in some way or other? I venture to say that there is not a single peasant woman who has not lost either father, husband, brother, or some other near relative or dear friend. Everyone was made to suffer through the war. Probably, there are some who would like to get away from it, and to forget all about it, but the war itself saw to it that we should be constantly reminded of it, for every day, every worker and peasant was hit hard by it, either in his pocket, but more often in his body and in his whole life. This war is being settled now. The old war was brought about by Tsars, Kings, landowners and bankers. Now it is nearing its end.

(To be continued).

PROUD OF FRENCH AND BRITISH IMPERIALISTS OF '71.

By R. KREEL.

History repeats itself over and over again. Lloyd George, in answering the question about a Bolshevik rising in France, expressed his confidence in the French Government, and said: "They know how to deal with them," à la '71. It seems to me that the hot-headed Millerand, drunk with the so-called "victory," forgets that the conditions all over the globe are against a repitition of another cold-blood '71, and, therefore, he is openly mobilising an army to fight Soviet Russia, against the workers' will, ignoring them entirely, and depending upon another '71 if it comes.

It is too late now. Firstly, Socialist Russia is united in one solid mass against world-capitalists' tyranny, whilst the Communists of '71, being in a minority, had the whole world against them. Secondly, a revolution in France now means strong military support from Socialist Russia, and moral and material support from the British and German workers, as witness the present awakening of the British workers, who are protesting against war with Soviet Russia, and threaten a general strike. In '71, the French workers had to fight their battle all alone. Thirdly, the economic conditions of the world in '71 were not ripe for a real social revolution, especially in Russia, whilst now, the economic conditions in Russia are the foundation stone for a Socialist Commonwealth, and of great assistance to other revolutionary countries. The economic conditions of France, Britain, and Germany are just as ripe for a revolution.

Millerand, who still has the taste of the blood of the workers of '71 on his lips, declares war on Soviet Russia, and recognises Wrangel's army and despatches fresh troops to him. Where is the proletariat of France? "A la '71," is the answer. But the question is, will it make any difference to Soviet Russia, if war is declared officially or unofficially against her? Have not France and Britain supported all counter-revolutionary forces with military equipment hitherto? Have not France and Britain been at war with Soviet Russia up till now? Did not Soviet Russia have to keep a mobilised army against British and French troops from the first day of the declaration of a Workers' Republic in Russia? Were not Denikin, Koltchak, Yudenitch, and now the Poles, fully supplied by France and Britain with ammunition, and their troops led by Allied Generals? War has been and will continue to be made upon Russia until capitalism is swept from off the face of the earth—or otherwise.

As a matter of fact, Soviet Russia has benefited by Millerand's official declaration of war, because the Italian and the British workers, who hitherto had acquiesced in supporting an unofficial war, and had supplied the counter-revolutionaries with munitions, have now been roused to take direct action. Millerand is left to fight without British Imperialist assistance.

The French proletariat being well informed, will certainly take the first opportunity to make a revolution against capitalism, and Russia will certainly have the support of the German workers. We workers of Britain are prepared to see that our Russian Comrades are victorious, and there is no doubt that if the Russian Socialists help the French proletariat to overthrow French tyranny, that Lloyd George will protest, and call upon the British workers to fight the "Brute Bolsheviks."

Workers! Remember that if the French Imperialists should reach Moscow, Lloyd George will certainly not protest; he is proud of '71, and wishes to see it in Moscow. We workers are more proud of 1871. Its revolutionary fires have continued to burn and have spread over the whole world, warming the hearts and souls of millions of proletarians, giving them the life and strength to fight capitalism until they have completely conquered it.

POLISH COMMUNISTS' APPEAL.

"To the Workers of all Lands:

"On the battlefields of White Russia and of the Ukraine, Polish imperialism is going down in a sea of blood. Under the hammer blows of the Red Army of Russian workers, the Polish front is wavering—this last front of the world counter-revolution, was set up by the gold of Entente capitalism.

Polish Militarism Denounced.

"The Polish Government and the Polish ruling classes are crying out in their rage to Europe to bring them help in their distress. They protest that this is a war of defence, that it is only a question of the 'independence of Poland,' which, as they say, is threatened by 'Bolshevik imperialism.' And also with them the Social Nationalists of the Polish Socialist Party are appealing for sympathy and help from the International proletariat, and are pretending that the victory of revolutionary Russia means the end of freedom for the Polish workers.

"At this momentous hour we, Communists of Poland, raise our voice and say to the workers of Europe:

"The Polish workers never had any interests in the attack of Polish militarism upon Soviet Russia.

"This war is in no way a war for the defence of Polish independence, but is for the defence of the domination of Polish and European capitalism at the cost of the blood of the working masses.

"The Polish workers see in the Red Army, no conquerors threatening their freedom, but an ally in the struggle for emancipation.

"If the Polish proletariat has not yet made an end to this war, that is not because it saw in the war a defence of its freedom, but rather because it is a prisoner in its own land, bound with chains and without any influence upon its rulers.

Polish Workers Oppressed.

"In no land of Europe, except White Russia and Rumania of the Black Hundreds, are the working classes so completely deprived of political freedom as in Poland.

"For 18 months, the Polish Government has ruled without a break by means of martial law, which was started by the 'Socialist' Government of Moraszewski. The Communist press cannot appear; the Communist Party must exist illegally.

"The class-conscious workers have been thrown by thousands into prison and concentration camps, and have been condemned to penal servitude on the ground of the military regulations established by the German and Austrian armies of occupation. Trade Union newspapers are persecuted and suppressed.

"On the other hand, the Government allows the Social-Patriotic Polish Socialist Party an uncontrolled freedom of agitation. This party deceives the workers by its 'Socialist' phrases, and pretends to act as their 'leaders,' with the assistance of the Government, to bring the working-class to ruin and paralyse the work of the revolutionary Communists.

Workers Socially Weakened.

". . . The Polish workers are not only politically suppressed; they are economically weakened. The criminal war policy of the Government brings it about that Poland, after having consumed its last stores, is a bankrupt and ruined land.

"The factories are not running, a million workmen are wandering about unemployed, the proletariat is only partly concentrated in the great industrial centres, the greater part of them being scattered about in remote corners of the land, in hunger and misery, or having emigrated.

"All the power and means of the state are concentrated by the Government on the military and police organisations. For education, there is applied only 2 per cent. of the State Budget. In Warsaw alone, 100,000 children of school age are going without education. *The masses of the Polish people are deprived of cultural influence.*"

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The Labour Reformist Policy.

The interim report of the Joint Committee appointed by the Trades Union Congress, the Labour Party, the Co-operative Union, the Triple Alliance and some individual Unions, to investigate the problem of high prices, has been presented to the Trades Union Congress at Portsmouth.

The Labour News Service has issued the following summary of it:—

The rise in prices is due more to currency expansion than to contraction of production.

The first step therefore, is to deal with the expansion of the currency in this and other countries and to deflate it, where this is possible, to an extent which will eliminate the depreciation of currency in terms of gold.

Such a process will not restore prices to the pre-war level, but in this country it would mean perhaps a reduction of the general level of prices by about 20 per cent. It would also cut at the root of the automatic rise of prices due to currency influences.

We look to the development of productive capacity all over the world to bring about ultimately a substantial fall in prices.

An attempt to secure a fall of prices to the pre-war level by a drastic restriction of the currency would result in widespread unemployment, and, most probably, in a considerable fall in wages. By the operation of a steady improvement in productivity (through the participation of all countries in the trade of the world, the improvement of methods and machinery, and a far-reaching reorganisation of industry), the standard of life of the people would be maintained and automatically raised as prices fell.

The present index numbers of prices should be superseded by new index numbers based upon the prices prevailing since the Armistice.

As regards currency, we suggest that—

Legislation is necessary to regulate the conditions of issue of notes by fixing an absolute amount which the fiduciary issue must not exceed, this amount to be gradually and periodically reduced until the depreciation of British paper currency in terms of gold disappears.

The Government should cease entirely to resort to bank credits to meet expenditure.

The floating debt should be wholly or largely repaid, the remainder, if any, being funded.

The banking system of the country should be publicly controlled.

Government expenditure on military and naval enterprises should cease.

As regards the international aspects of the problem, we think that—

The re-establishment of peace throughout the world is a prime essential.

War indemnities should be defined and reasonable in amount.

Every country should be required to take all possible steps to rehabilitate its currency.

In countries where a return to the gold standard is impracticable, a new parity of exchange should be established.

Until the machinery of exchange is re-established, the import and export of goods between different countries should be conducted, where other methods are not possible, by means of direct barter.

An international loan should be floated by the League of Nations (under conditions laid down by the League) in order to provide impoverished countries with a means of restoring their productive capacity.

It will be seen that the question has been dealt with from a reformist point of view, and if it were carried out, would only mean a slight reduction in prices. With the cost of living, at the lowest estimate, 165 per cent. above the pre-war rate, how inadequate is the suggested 20 per cent. reduction! In presenting the report, Mr. Arthur Greenwood said: "If we could sqeeze the water out of our paper money, American bacon would be 5d. a lb. cheaper." Bacon is now 2/8 a lb., and if it were reduced to 2/2 it would still be beyond the reach of the ordinary worker. Of course, it would make a little difference to the budgets of the Labour leaders, who can afford to buy it out of their £1,000 or £1,500 a year.

Already the question of unemployment has reached a serious stage, due in some cases to over-production, notably in the boot trade, yet this Joint Committee is advocating increased production. As long as the capitalists control the production of the workers and dispose of it where and at what prices they will, so long the present situation will continue.

At the present time we have employers sacking their employees and offering to re-engage them at pre-war wages. What effect is this going to have? It will cause more unemployment, which is just what the Government wants, in order to obtain recruits for the army.

Reforms under the present system are useless. Even the public control of the banking system, advocated by the Joint Committee will not help matters much, because that control will be in the hands of a capitalist Government.

The Capitalist system is breaking up from within, and instead of suggesting means for bolstering it up, the Joint Committee should suggest measures for hastening its downfall. But that is just what the Labour leaders are seeking to avoid. They do not wish to acknowledge that the capitalist system is at the root of all the evil, because they are afraid of facing the fight between the capitalists and the workers, and they are doing their utmost to postpone it.

The Labour men try to believe in a peaceful revolution, and make out that if only they are put into power, it can be accomplished. But all historical evidence is against them. There is bound to be a fight and a bloody one, because the capitalists will not submit tamely to being dispossessed of their power and wealth. Look how they are crying out already against the miners! But this press campaign of theirs to divide the workers, is only one side of their activities, they are not relying upon that alone. They are also organising their forces, military as well as economic, against their enemies the workers. And what are the Labour leaders doing to counter these preparations? Are they taking precautions to safeguard the rank and file workers? Are they permeating the other Unions with propaganda, and suggestions of the steps they must take to safeguard the food and other supplies to the miners? Have they any practical methods in hand for dealing with the unemployment situation which will arise? Are they permeating the Army, the Navy, Mercantile Marine, and the police force with class-conscious propaganda? If they are doing nothing of all this, then the day will come when the workers will rise up and say: "You are our enemies, you have betrayed us to the capitalists. We trusted you, but we have misplaced our trust. Away with you. Now we shall take control." In Italy, the rank and file do control their leaders, led by the Communist Party, which is as it should be, because it is composed of the advance-guard of the proletariat and must show the way for the economic as well as the political struggle. The Italian metal-workers have taken control of all the factories, and are running them quite satisfactorily. Are the British workers going to be behind their Italian brothers? What they should do is to join the Communist Party (British Section of the Third International), which will consolidate them in their class-consciousness and organise them so as to achieve a successful revolution, which will overthrow Capitalism and establish a Communist Commonwealth.

The Irish Hunger Strikers.

The eleven untried prisoners in Cork Gaol are still on hunger strike and are in a very serious condition; the Lord Mayor of Cork is also lying at death's door, hunger striking for a principle, and neither the Prime Minister nor the workers of this country will raise a finger to secure their release. Miss MacSwiney begged to be allowed to speak on behalf of her brother at the Trades Union Congress, but J. H. Thomas would not let her. He was evidently afraid that the emotions of the rank and file might be so much touched that they would declare for a general strike there and then, and that is the last thing that Mr. Thomas desires. If a general strike took place, the result might go far beyond what the Labour leaders are looking for, i.e., a constitutional dominance of the workers by themselves. Many of the workers already realise that a Labour Party Government will leave them where they are now, and they will not be satisfied with that. They do not believe in the doctrine of George Lansbury, as expressed in the *Daily Herald* of the 11th: "At home let us put an end to the class war and all its greed and misery, by establishing our right to capture Parliament and the Government."

The class-conscious workers know that the class war has hardly started yet, and that until it is fought and won there can be no peace for the workers.

Mr. Kameneff Returns to Russia.

Mr. Kameneff has left for Russia to discuss matters with his Government. Before leaving, he had an interview with Lloyd George, who attacked him fiercely for alleged breaches of faith in regard to the implied obligations of not interfering with British internal policy. Mr. Kameneff made a positive denial of all Mr. Lloyd George's charges, but said that he was responsible to his own Government alone for his actions. Evidently the strike epidemic is getting on the Premier's nerves and he has to blame some one.

Polish Delays in Peace Negotiations.

The Russo-Polish Peace negotiations are to take place in Riga, and it is expected that an armistice will be arranged in a few days. The Polish delegates have not yet arrived, though last week they were blaming the Russians for causing delays. Successes are claimed by both sides on the military fronts.

The Typographical Strike.

A meeting of the representatives of the Printing and Kindred Trades Federation, the Executive of the Typographical Association, and representatives of the Workers' Panel of the Joint Industrial Council for the Printing Trades, which was held at Portsmouth, issued a statement in reference to the strike of printers at Manchester and Liverpool, in which they state that they raise no objection to members of other branches doing work in Manchester and Liverpool. A London chapel has passed a resolution, which it has circulated to other London chapels for endorsement, protesting against this decision recommending that other unions should assist the Manchester and Liverpool masters to defeat other Trade Unionists. It says: "If we do not possess the necessary unity, and our officials are lacking the absolute energy to fight for a wage equal to other skilled trades, we have no right to assist the masters in fighting those who have."

An explanatory note calls for full consideration and support, so that "constitutional blacklegging may be stopped." This is the right attitude to take up, and if the Printers' Executives do not stand up for the men they represent when they are fighting the employers, whether they have sanctioned their action or not, then the remedy lies in the men's hands, they must change their Executives for a more class-conscious set of men.

Unemployment in Poplar.

The dockers in Poplar are having a hard time now, many of them having had no work for weeks. They congregate outside the dock gates and fight one another to get work, but the majority of them have to go home to their wives and children with empty pockets. We heard a lot about the 16/- a day for dockers, but how many of them get it? There are more unem-

ployed in this district than there have been for 20 years, and yet the capitalists wonder why there is so much talk of revolution!

Revolution in Italy.

The Italian metal-workers seizure of the factories is having a stimulating effect, and their example is being followed by other sections of workers, who are demanding the socialisation of labour. The dockers have seized the docks, port and warehouses at Genoa, and the Maritime Federation seized the boat *Robosto*, belonging to the Government of General Wrangel. The railwaymen are issuing supplies to the Sovietised factories, and are refusing to transport soldiers and munitions. The peasants in the province of Palermo have occupied many of the estates of the landed aristocracy.

The C.G.T. held a meeting on the 11th and 12th, at which it declared that the metal-workers' struggle was provoked by just and reasonable demands, and there could now be no possible agreement between the workers and the employers as to a joint solution of the conflict, and the C.G.T. with the aid of the Socialist Party, decided to take over the responsibility and the direction of the movement. The movement thus becomes national and will have for its object the achievement of Trades Union control of factories and workshops in the metal industry, and ultimately the socialisation of the industry itself.

The workers are carrying on the work well in the factories they have seized, the output has increased by 50 per cent. in the "F.I.A.T." works, and owing to an arrangement with other factories, they have got plenty of raw material so far, but to ensure their success, the workers in this and other countries must see that they continue to be supplied. They have control of all the motor car works, and are prepared to receive orders for immediate delivery. All the factories are guarded by Red Guards, who are armed, which is a very necessary precaution, as the Government has already issued instructions for the employment of armed force if the workers' movement should extend.

M. Labriola, the Labour Minister, has made an interesting statement, as follows:—

"About 400,000 workmen are involved in the present workmen's movement.

"*The guilt for the crisis rests with the employers.*

"The State's duty is to maintain public order in the streets only; as regards the occupation of factories by workmen, it is open to the owners to take judicial proceedings.

"The guiding principle of Giolitti's policy is to so adapt the country's institutions that they could be utilised forthwith if a change from a capitalist to a Socialist system was made. *If owners decline to give up their factories, they could be compelled to do so,* because the general welfare must stand before the welfare of the individual."—

Wireless Press.

The solidarity amongst the Italian workers is an object lesson to the workers in this country, who should study the Italians' methods of asserting their rights.

The Electrical Lock-Out.

The issue between the E.T.U. and the Engineering and National Employers' Federations, which arose out of the employing of a "scab" foreman in the Cammell, Laird Co., at Penistone, Sheffield, is assuming wide and significant proportions. The Industrial Court set up to enquire into the case consists of Sir David Harrel (Chairman), Mr. J. N. Bell (Amalgamated Union of Labour), Col. J. H. Denny (Shipbuilder), Mr. John Hodge (Iron and Steel Trades Confederation), Mr. T. B. Johnston, Mr. Owen Parker, (Boot and Shoe Manufacturer), and Mr. W. F. Purdy.

But the militant electricians have gained a new accession of strength from a formidable source and we understand that they have decided to withdraw from the Capitalist Court of Inquiry and fight out the issue on their own ground.

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The Schooling of the Future, by E. Sylvia Pankhurst	1d.	9d.
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The Class War in Australia.

STRIKE IN BROKEN HILL.

By P. BROOKFIELD, M.L.A.

Dividends versus Lives.

For 15 months, the mine workers of Broken Hill, New South Wales, Australia, have remained solidly on strike for humane working conditions against the combined capitalistic forces of Australia. Broken Hill is a mining town, situated nearly 400 miles from Adelaide, the nearest Australian capital city, and is situated in the centre of a desert. The town is so isolated that the people of the remainder of Australia know very little of what passes there, except from inspired and misleading telegrams published in the mineowners' daily papers. Broken Hill has a desert climate, which is as hot as hell in summer, and as cold as charity in winter. The dust from the mining dumps blows all over the town, and the fumes of chemicals from the mine works help to make life a species of purgatory. Only workers driven to seek their daily bread at all costs submit to life in this dreary township. The line of lode that is being mined, is about three miles in length, and consists of dense silver lead sulphides. Its width runs up to 400 feet, and its values are exceedingly high. Ordinarily, from 7,000 to 8,000 men are employed in the mines, the population of the town being roughly, 35,000.

Profits of the Mineowners.

These mines have yielded in profits, up to date, the colossal sum of £65,000,000, and in extracting this wealth from the bowels of the earth, 1,400 men have been killed outright, together with thousands of others who have gone to an early grave through miner's phthisis, plumbism, and other diseases traceable to the lead-mining industry. These profits were made with lead at an average price of £14 per ton, and silver less than 2/- per ounce. Lead is now over £80 a ton, and silver over 4/- per ounce, and yet in spite of these increased prices, the mineowners fiercely deny that the industry can afford any better working conditions.

Accidents.

The isolation of the mines has tempted the capitalists to exploit the workers to the uttermost. Ruthless treatment has been meted out and the underground workings are so unhealthy that the mines are practically a deathtrap. Fatal and other accidents total over 3,000 annually. This is apart from those who fall victims to pneumonia, lead poisoning, etc.

If blood were trumps, what hands the mining companies would hold!

Medical Evidence.

Medical men have made startling statements concerning the prevalence of deadly diseases resulting from work in the mines. Dr. Birks, Medical Superintendent of the Broken Hill Hospital, stated that a large proportion of the Broken Hill miners suffered from lead poisoning, and that five years' continuous work in the mines would undermine the strongest constitution. Dr. Stevens examined a large number of mine workers, and found that 78 per cent. of those examined were suffering from lung consolidation, lead poisoning, or one of the other diseases traceable to the lead-mining industry.

Dr. Burnell stated that many of the fatalities from pneumonia were directly traceable to the mining industry, as those who were employed underground were more susceptible to lung troubles. The miners made exhaustive investigations into the health question, and have become convinced that the only way to minimise the risks to health of the underground workers, is to secure a shorter working day and a longer week-end rest in the open air, to throw off the evil effects of the gases and dust inhaled while performing their work.

Efforts to Obtain Better Conditions.

The mine workers have tried every method to induce the owners to grant more humane working conditions, but they have always met with an implacable refusal, and at last, driven to desperation, and realising that the present conditions of work were a short cut to the cemetery, the miners, on May 2nd, 1919, submitted the following set of conditions to the mining companies, for the future working of the mines:—

1. A six hours' shift, bank to bank.
2. Five days per week.
3. The abolition of night shift.
4. The abolition of the contract system.
5. Wages £1 per day.
6. Compensation on the basis of full pay for time lost as a result of accident or occupational diseases.

These claims met with an all round definite refusal from the mining magnates, and for over 15 months, the miners, with their wives and families, have been entrenched upon the industrial battlefield, fighting for conditions of work which will enable them to live their lives like human beings. On several occasions, scabs have been organised to rush the picket lines, but in all the skirmishes brought about by such action, the miners have been victorious. Several of the best men among the mine workers have been jailed as a result of these efforts of the boss to break the solidarity of the men, and libel actions have been trumped up against those who write and speak on behalf of the miners, but without shaking the determination of the unionists to win better conditions before work is resumed.

All the newspapers, with the exception of a few Labour journals, have been violently opposed to the miners. The journalistic staff of the miners' own paper, *Barrier Daily Truth*, refused to work on coupons, and pulled out in the middle of the strike, but the miners, realising the necessity of a working-class newspaper during industrial trouble, overcame the journalistic difficulty, placed miners in charge, and successfully ran the paper themselves. This paper has played a great part in keeping the ranks of the miners solid during this terrible struggle.

Trades Hall Activities.

The Trades Hall has been turned into a wholesale co-operative store, and two of the mine workers buy all necessaries wholesale, in Adelaide. The goods are then railed direct to Broken Hill, thereby eliminating the profits of the middleman. Coupons are distributed to all strikers on the basis of 7/- per week for single men, and 11/- for married men, with 2/6 additional for each child. You can understand from these figures that the miners of Broken Hill must have a genuine case, otherwise they would not have tolerated such short commons for 15 months. The store is run by the strikers, and men are allotted to certain tasks, on the performance of which the issue of the coupon depends. Groups go out into the bush and catch rabbits; others cut firewood; women make clothing and provide nursing attendance; other men repair boots; others cut hair and shave; only in this way could the persecuted workers manage to exist on the small sum possible for payment to them. Funds are donated by various unions, but owing to the high cost of living and the number of unemployed, these unions are not able to subscribe very liberally. The Coal and Shale Federation has provided most of the financial assistance during this awful struggle.

A conference between the mineowners and mine workers to try and settle this industrial war, is called for July 13th, by the State Government, and by the time this reaches you, peace may again visit the industrial battlefield of Broken Hill.

To Revolutionary Communist Groups.

Communist Party

(British Section of the Third International)

Conference.

Gore Brook Hall, Gorton, Manchester, SATURDAY and SUNDAY, September 25th and 26th.

Delegates from the Communist Party Branches and all revolutionary Communist Groups are invited. Notify the Secretary stating the strength of the Branch or Group for a card vote.

E. T. WHITEHEAD.
8, Sinclair Gardens, London, W.6.

ORIGINAL DEFECTIVE.

SOUTH WALES NOTES.

By T. J. WATKINS.

The Capitalist Press has been quite a scream these last three weeks before the ballot, threatening dire penalties, fighting national constitutions, smash-up of stable government, increased cost of living, fireless grates for poor, attack on widows and old-age pensioners, and last, but not least, fireless hospitals and work-houses. In a word, the *Class Struggle in Excelsis.*

But here is the tit-bit. Mr. John Littlejohn, Unionist Parliamentary Agent in South Wales, suggested the strike is a "blow against the State and an effort to overthrow constitutional freedom (don't forget D.O.R.A.), which is based on 1,000 years' experiences." Fancy trying to exist after that. Imagine our lawyer friend's historical hunt for laws passed in the Tenth Century to upset laws of the Twentieth! A brain wave. All the profession bows before Little-johnny, and proclaims: *Eli, lama sabachthani*; or, translated, "My God, why hast Thou forsaken us."

Since the Ballot.

"Boys of 18 to 21 should not vote on an equality with men."—*South Wales News.*

"Boys against widows and the aged," "A fight against other Trade Unionists," "Other Trades Unionists apathetic and antagonistic," "Mediation by Triple Alliance," "Deadly opposition by the rest of the Trade Union Congress"—in short, any old gag to frighten or coerce or cajole, with the object of dividing the working-class. The game is too obvious now; the rank and file see through the whole move of the Boss Press, and are saying: "The increase in the cost of living grows; fireless grates is no new horror to the poor; widows and pensioners are always the first to feel any increase in hardships, because of the stable Government, and a national constitution long out of joint with Community production. Threats frighten no one, the penalties we all endure already. The national constitution must go by the board because of the 1,000 years' trimming. The Twentieth Century must see the workers in power and acting in harmony with new industrial conditions, if we want a happy and healthy childhood, freedom from worry for the aged, and no *poor.*

Strikes and Threats of Strikes.

In South Wales we have had a strike of tramway men and corporation employees in Cardiff, which ended in a compromise. Gas workers on strike at Neath were let down after five weeks by the national organisation. Grocers' assistants are moving towards a strike. The bakers are balloting on a strike proposal. The E.T.U. is on the run, not knowing what may happen; and, above all, the Confederation of Steel and Sheet Millmen are balloting on a strike to enforce a six hours' day, to share work, or eight hours with two more helpers, and a few shillings more per box; this is the employees' offer. The trimmers at the docks at Cardiff defied a notice issued to eighty of their men. A comparison of these opposing forces ought to prove how essential it is for a linking-up for a concerted attack on Capitalism.

A Clash Inevitable.

There is a clear indication here that a clash is inevitable, and preparations are going on to meet the worst. But with it all the men are unperturbed, and they simply smile at the childish prattle of the capitalist henchman, Sir Robert Horne. There is a growing uneasiness among the compensation men, as is seen by a deputation to the S.W.M.F. last week, appealing for grants, and again the deputation to Portsmouth to meet the Parliamentary Committee, only to receive, in the first place, a reply that the matter shall be sent on to the M.F.G.B., and, in the second, the only comfort they got from Mr. Bowerman, M.P., was that they must possess their souls in patience, until it pleases the Government to give effect, through legislation, to the finding of the late Commission. There is trouble ahead on this question; that is sure, and an agitation must be carried on in every possible way, to give effect to the demand of this much-neglected section of the Trades Union members. I here appeal to all men in receipt of compensation to get together and badger their meeting and officials on this matter.

Local Trouble.

Locally there is trouble again. A worker was stopped without notice; this is about the eighth case of a like character within two months. In the other cases we forced the management to retain our comrades, and a stand is now being made, and it is up to us to enforce this man's re-instatement, too; whatever happens, he must be given back his work. This is at Bedwas Collieries. Owing to the increased railway fares for workmen, threats to stop are taking place. This matter comes before the Conference next week. All this indicates the temper of the men, and everything is volcanic in character, which may break out at any moment. It is our duty to harness the economic power of the working-class, as the only means of giving effect to their aspirations and needs. The master-class is more panic-stricken now than ever in history, and will use every means to keep themselves in power. We must therefore keep them on the run; the more panic-stricken they are the more blunders they will make. The more blunders they commit the clearer becomes the outlook of our class, and only action will satisfy this changed outlook.

NOTES FROM THE MIDLANDS.

By H.M.E.

These notes will deal with the Midlands generally, but with Coventry and Birmingham in particular. My aim is to give readers outside the district an idea of conditions here, rather than a weekly lecture to readers in the district.

Industrially we are well into the beginning of a slump: many firms are all but closed down, and most others are on short time. The hopeful sign in it all is that the workers are, almost for the first time, blaming the capitalist class and not some other section of workers, nor a foreign country, nor the Government as such. Class-consciousness is growing rapidly, even if Birmingham—once known as the "scab city of Europe"—is fast losing the apathy it was noted for when under the influence of Chamberlainism.

I spent two days in the Nuneaton district amongst the miners this week. They are in fine form, and their women folk are solidly behind them. The young bloods of the capitalist class who scabbed on the railwaymen are not likely to try it on the miners; but if they do—well, Ireland won't be in it!

Talking of scabs, I learn that a few beings, members of E.T.U., have appeared at A.E.U. branches in Coventry and have been accepted as members. But, as our local aspirant to Dick Wallhead's place, Jimmy Read, would say, "This is a democratic country. We don't want a dictatorship"; so, of course, a man has a right to change his Union. Funny how J. Read has got mixed up in this note about scabs.

I see the Birmingham Branch of the Communist Labour Party are joyful about their permeation of Birmingham's Council of Action. I wish them luck.

COMMUNISTS IN COUNCIL.

Dear Editor,—May I be permitted to ask one or two questions regarding Mr. Lenin's article in the "Workers' Dreadnought" for July 31st.

It seems to me that the description of Communism or Sovietism given by Mr. Lenin gives us a favourable opportunity to compare the two systems known as Socialism and Capitalism. If Mr. Lenin's Socialism involves the complete subjection of the masses of the community to the will and direction of Mr. Lenin and others of his Party, in what way is it superior to the commonest brand of Capitalism? One may ask in what way is it a gain to anyone if they are forced to give up all their own initiative and liberty of action? What shall it profit a man if he gains the Communist dividend and loses his individualistic soul?—Yours, etc.,

FLORENCE HUMPHREYS.

Mount Vernon,
New York, U.S.A.

TWO REPLIES.

The writer mentions but does not compare the two systems of Socialism and Capitalism.

The workers of the community shall really be subject to the mass will of the working class. They will accept it willingly just as when, for instance, during the late war the workers, carried away by the wild wave of nationalism, toiled and fought blindly for the war-mongers and profiteers until they came to a rude awakening. If the workers could so easily accept the dictation of the exploiting class, how much more ready will they be to submit to the will of their own! What "initiative and liberty of action" have the machine workers under the present system?

"Individualistic soul!" Capitalist society to-day is the very last word in extreme individualism. The pendulum of life is swaying back to community co-operation. Mankind cannot have its cake and eat it, that is, it cannot enjoy complete individualist independence and partake of the communal life. One must be subject to the other. Individualism—"the struggle for existence and survival of the fittest"—led us into the woods. We are trying to find a way out by putting the class-conscious community before the independent individual. F.C.M.

One point of difference is that under Communism the worker is subjected to the will of one of his own class, who has his interests at heart and whom he has elected to take charge over him, and whom he can *recall at any time.*

A second point of difference between Socialism and Capitalism is, under Socialism or Communism the discipline of the worker is self-imposed, as against a discipline enforced from above as at present. Without this self-discipline, Communism would soon degenerate into a state of chaos. Now the discipline from above is only maintained by force on economic pressure. When these are done away with, discipline must still be retained, and the will of the proletariat enforced by the representatives of their own class, whom they have selected to fulfil that task. N.S.

Dear Editor,—In your issue of September 11th, there is an article entitled "What Communism stands for." As an advocate of Communism, I should like to ask the writer what he means by stating that Communism stands "for equal wages for workers and leaders" and "Equal pay for men and women." I have always understood that Communism stood "For the abolition of the wages system." Seeing that wages is the price of the worker's labour-power, and that the worker's labour-power is a commodity because it is bought and sold upon the market, under a state of Communism, the worker's labour-power, ceasing to be bought and sold, his price (wages) must also cease. The wages system is the effect of a cause, i.e. the private ownership of the sources of wealth, production and distribution. Communism, standing for the abolition of private ownership, the wages system will go with it, so that there is no need for speaking of wages under Communism.—Yours fraternally, P. F. MEACHEM.

GREETINGS FROM NEW ZEALAND.

July 4th, 1920.

Dear Editor,—From far-off New Zealand, militant comrades send the "Workers' Dreadnought" their fraternal regards and appreciation of the great work that the "Dreadnought" and Workers' Socialist Federation are doing in England. Though we are few in numbers, the time is not far distant when accession to our ranks and to the ideas and tactics that count—Industrial Action and Proletarian Dictatorship—will be largely increased.

A large number of wage-slaves in New Zealand read and look forward to the activities of the W.S.F., and the articles from the "Dreadnought," which are re-published in the New Zealand and Australian Labour and Radical Press. The "Dreadnought" is frequently quoted here, and it is recognised that your journal is a power and a growing one amongst the intelligent rank and file of the submerged and down-trodden proletariat of the Old Dart.

We hope that you will be enabled to continue in your splendid and enlightening work of spreading broadcast amongst the toilers of England the emancipatory programme of the Soviet system of Russia, and the proletarian dictatorship of industry and society, which methods and social system are the only ones that will give victory and supremacy to the workers, over their capitalist and aristocratic ruling tyrants—English and foreign.

No half measures of political Labour Parties, Parliamentary action (inaction), or political plans of any kind or nature whatsoever, will ever assist the mass of the workers to better their conditions or give them the opportunities of material happiness and mental development and freedom. Only the tactics and methods of our Russian comrades and their social system—the Soviets—the land and the industries owned and controlled by the people, for the people, and of the people, will achieve it. The human race has had to welter through age-long agony and misery till at last, in our day, through the development of science and industry, has been thought out a workable scheme of social welfare and success.

Before closing, I would, through you, address a solemn note of warning to the workers of Great Britain. It is to hasten and acquire sound information upon economics and social organisation, and to look carefully into the tremendous difficulties and conditions that may confront the people of England in the near future as the national and international situation develops, when the present Capitalist system, getting more and more unworkable and impossible, goes tottering to its end.

The Capitalists, drunken with past power and frenzied with fright and dismay at the rising might and demands of the workers for a freer and fuller life, will take the most desperate means to uphold their waning control and ownership, even if in the process civilisation should collapse and dissolve. England, being a sea-girt island, dependent largely upon sea-borne food and raw material, would be in imminent danger of actual starvation, and of becoming a vast charnel house and sepulchre, and the toilers of Great Britain must be alive to this terrible possibility and carefully prepare against this crucial eventuality. The capitalist system of society is breaking down rapidly, of its own weight and incompetence. Will the workers be in time to avert the catastrophe?

In conclusion, New Zealand rebels send you their best wishes and hope that your activities will continue till success crowns your efforts and the Socialist Federated Republics is achieved.

All hail! the English Soviets!
All hail! the British Proletarian Dictatorship!

DAVID JOHN HAMILTON
(Secretary Napier Branch, Hawkes Bay, New Zealand Workers' Propaganda League).

AFFILIATION REFUSED.

The Communist Party of Great Britain applied for affiliation to the Labour Party, and has been refused. The "Daily Herald" points out that "there is no greater division of aim or method between the Labour Party and the Communist Party than there was between the Labour Party and the British Socialist Party. The latter, which, as everyone knows, forms a very large proportion of the Communist Party, was affiliated to the Labour Party without any great trouble or difficulty being raised about it." We might add, "and without the B.S.P. raising any great trouble within the Labour Party," which helped to confirm us in our decision against affiliation. The Branches of the Communist Party of Great Britain have been accepted as affiliated members of the local Labour Parties. Will they be turned out?

MALTHUSIANISM

BIRTH-CONTROL METHODS

by

PROFESSOR G. HARDY.

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39 Illustrations.

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J. W. GOTT, Secretary Liberator League,
61, Dorset Street, Bradford.

INTERNATIONAL NOTES.

To the Young Workers of England.

Comrades,—We are living in the time of the social revolution. The social war is going on in all countries. In one country, Russia, the workers have won the fight, and in the other lands the war between the employees and the exploiters is going to be fiercer every day. In such a time all workers have to do their duty. Men and women, old and young, who belong to the working-class, must take part in this great social war, especially the younger ones! The young workers must be the advance guard of the working-class. The young ones, with their spirit and their enthusiasm, have to be the best fighters in the rank and file.

Comrades! Look at the Continent! Already in 1903 the first clubs of the Young Socialists were formed. They constituted at once their own organisation, and afterwards they took a great part in the political movement. In several countries the Young Socialists have built up solid organisations with many thousands of members. They have their own press, their own publishing companies, and their own schools and study circles. In many countries, for instances in Italy, Germany, Sweden, Norway, Finland and Russia, the Young Socialists have done good political work. In Germany the young men and women of the working-class have taken a great part in the social war; in Russia the young workers are the best fighters for the revolution. When the working-class in Italy, Sweden, and Norway joined the Third International, it is to the Young Socialists in these countries that the honour for this work is due.

It is necessary that the young workers of England do the same as their comrades on the Continent, and, comrades, NOW is the time to work and fight! You must organise your comrades, start clubs, and then unite the clubs in a great union for the whole country. You must begin to-day. Speak to your comrades in the factories and in the other working places; explain to them their duty in this difficult time. Bring them to the clubs, and if there is no club in the place, you and your comrades must start one.

To you, comrades, who belong to the Communist Party in England, we say: Don't forget the young workers. Remember, that if you will win the future, you must have the young men and women at your side. Help them to organise, help them in their studies and education, and help them to build their own organisation. All young workers of the world have to unite. The young workers of the Continent are united in the Communist International. This International was constituted at an international congress in Berlin, in which fourteen of the most important organisations of the young workers took part. The congress elected an executive committee which leads the whole international work. The Young Communist Internation comprises twenty-three organisations with half a million members, all active workers for Socialism. The organisations of the different countries are working in harmony; they exchange books, pamphlets, and papers, and discuss together their experiences on the different questions; in all their work they are trying to realise the international ideas.

Comrades! Young workers of England! You will have to go with us. You are living under the same circumstances as we are, you are exploited just as we are, you have the same sufferings and the same dreams. Go with us! Don't waste the time! Come now! Take up the work. Build clubs! Organise and agitate: English comrades, we are quite sure that you, just like the young workers of the Continent, will march out under the red flag with enthusiasm, and take up the fight under our common cry:

Long live the Young Communist International:
Long live the social revolution!

—Executive Committee of the Communist Young People's International.

Schism in the Communist Camps.

The conditions issued from Moscow (published in last week's "Dreadnought"), for affiliation to the Third International, have fallen like a bombshell amongst the reformists in the Communist Parties of the various countries. Branting, head of the Swedish "Socialist" Government, said that the working methods of the Third International must be resisted by everyone who had hitherto regarded Soviet doctrines as only a more radical kind of Socialism.

In Italy ten reformist Socialist deputies have issued a manifesto urging the Socialist Party to abandon "catastrophic programmes" and "dangerous demagogism." The Committee is known as the Concentration Group, which is calling a fresh Party Congress on the 19th and 20th of this month. The Left Wing section in the Party is very strong, and it is probable that there will be a split in the Party.

The Executive of the Swiss Socialist Party has passed a resolution instructing the Central Committee of the Party to rescind its recent decision to adhere to the Third International. This Party has already changed its mind on this question several times, which shows that its principles are not very decided.

The French Socialist Party has not yet settled if it will join the Third, but if it does there will be a split. The same thing applies to Germany and Austria.

In Austria sharp conflicts are raging amongst the various Socialist bodies, as a result of the conditions of admission to the Third International, which they have received, and which exclude the social-democratic sections unless they adopt an orthodox Communist programme.

Moscow knows from experience that reformists and believers in a moderate Socialism in the dim future are only a danger to the revolutionary Communist movement, and very wisely has made the conditions of affiliation unacceptable to them. There will be a purging of the various Communist Parties. How much better it would have been not to have united with them in the first place!

Support for Bolsheviki.

Dr. Benesch, one of the Ministers at Prague, spoke in favour of the alliance between the Czecho-Slovaks, Jugo-Slovaks, and Roumanians, and said that it was most important that the Russian Soviet Government should be recognised as quickly as possible, and considered that the Czecho-Slovak Republic must act in this connection independently of the Entente.

* * *

From Irkutsk the Siberian Red Army sent a telegram to the Second Congress of the Third International, in which it said that the Siberian Army, having pushed back the Koltchak hordes 4,000 versts from the Volga to Baikal, was now ready once more to take up the fight against world imperialism.

* * *

In Charkov, the fourth anniversary of the Left Social-Revolutionary *Borotjbisten* was held from the 16th to 20th of July. The following resolution was carried unanimously: "In the knowledge that the moment has come for uniting all revolutionary forces under the flag of the Communist Party, the Bolsheviki, the 4th Congress resolves to join the Communist Party."

* * *

In several villages around Minsk clergymen went to the people's meetings and declared that they were in favour of the Soviets, and urged the peasants to give the surplus corn to the Red Army, and to join it in order to throw off the yoke of the Polish priests and the *Schlachta*.

Culture in Russia.

The establishment of a huge library has been started in Archangel, which shall serve as the centre for the whole of the Northern District. A former palatial bank will be converted into the library.

In Eiskla the Section for Social Care has organised a Musicians Institute for the blind. The orchestra is composed entirely of blind persons.

Moscow, August 30th.—One thousand five hundred officers who were formerly in the Koltchak, Denikin and Yudenitch armies, met in a concentration camp on the Caspian Sea and sent an appeal to the Cossacks and all other soldiers fighting in the White armies. They called upon them to leave their generals and to join the Soviet army, where for the first time they could enjoy as free citizens all the rights of their Fatherland.

Another group of 200 officers, who serve as instructors in the Soviet army, have sent Wrangel's officers a similar appeal.

COMMUNIST PARTY.

(British Section Third International).

Official Organ: *The Workers' Dreadnought.* Secretary: Edgar T. Whitehead.

Fellow Communists,

A CONFERENCE of all LEFT WINGERS who are prepared to adhere to the undermentioned, will be held at the LABOUR HALL, on SATURDAY, SEPT. 18th, 1920, at 2.30 p.m.

CONSTITUTION.

Membership is open to all who accept the following measures:—

(1) The complete overthrow of Capitalism and the establishment of Communism.
(2) The class struggle.
(3) The dictatorship of the proletariat.
(4) The Soviet or Revolutionary Workers' Council system.
(5) Affiliation to the Third International.
(6) Refusal to engage in Parliamentary action.
(7) Non-affiliation to the Labour Party.

Further Business of the Conference:—

(1) To consider ways and means of co-operating and co-ordinating the whole of the Rebel element throughout South Wales.
(2) By forming Branches where there are only unattached Comrades at present.
(3) Advisability of getting an Organiser for South Wales and West of England.
(4) Ways and means of maintaining such Organiser.
(5) Acceptance of mandates for the Manchester Conference.
(6) Advisability of sending a Delegate to Manchester.
(7) Advisability of selecting provisional Committee and Officials or to call another South Wales Conference after the Annual at Manchester.
(8) Any other Business.

Two or more of the Executive Council will attend the Conference, especially the Secretary, Comrade Whitehead, who will be able to lay the case before the Conference, and answer any questions.

Any further explanations as regards the Conference should be addressed to me as convener and Provincial Councilman of the Communist Party.

I beg to remain, yours for Communism,

D. A. DAVIES,

38, Cemetery Road, Porth, Rhondda Valley.

Norwegian Trade Unions for Soviet.

The Norwegian workers are no longer satisfied to have the capitalists own the industries in which they must work and to be oppressed and robbed by them. They have declared themselves for the abolition of the whole capitalist system and adopted a programme to accomplish that end.

This programme is not a programme adopted by a Socialist or Communist Party, but a programme which was adopted by the National Congress of Trade Unions at a convention held during the month of July. The equivalent to this action in this country would be the adoption of the same kind of programme by the Trades Union Congress.

The steps which the Norwegian workers have determined upon are, first, the organisation of shop committees in all factories and workshops as the first step toward securing control of production, endorsement of the Soviet system of government and the Dictatorship of the Proletariat as the form of the workers' government after the conquest of power; third, endorsement of mass action by the workers as the means of achieving power.

The Shop Committees.

Through the shop committees the Norwegian workers expect to mobilise all the workers in each factory for the struggle against the capitalists. Their shop committees will not represent the workers of one union, but will unite all the unions in each factory by a common bond. By thus uniting all the workers in each factory in a common struggle in that factory, the idea of organisation of the workers in each factory for control of that factory is built up. The workers discuss and decide the issues which come up as their everyday conflict with the management and secure the necessary training to control the industries themselves. It is because the shop committees not only are powerful weapons in the immediate struggle of the workers for better wages and working conditions, but because they give the workers the training and discipline which they must have in order to conduct industry, that they are included in the programme of the Norwegian workers.

Mass Action.

The Norwegian workers do not expect to gain control of the industries through merely organising a shop committee in each factory. They realise that these shop committees are merely initial steps—that the control they can achieve while the capitalists remain in control of government is limited by narrow bounds. They know that if the shop committees go too far in their demands, the capitalists will call in the government, with its army and police and courts to break the organisation and power of the workers. Because of this realisation they have declared themselves for the use of mass action of the workers against the government, in order to abolish the instrument of oppression which the capitalists use against them.

Soviet and the Dictatorship of the Proletariat.

The Norwegian workers are close neighbours to the workers of Russia and they have learned from their struggle. After the Russian workers overthrew the government of the Czar and of Kerensky, they established the Soviets—Workers' Councils—as the organs of their government. The Workers' Councils are made up of the representatives of the workers of various occupations and of the peasants. The shop committees which the Norwegian workers have set up are the nucleus of the Workers' Councils. Only workers who gain their livelihood through useful labour are permitted to vote in the election of the Workers' Councils. The capitalists are disfranchised. This means that the workers have complete control of their government, and their exploiters are barred from participation. This is the Dictatorship of the Proletariat, for which the Norwegian workers have declared themselves.

The Norwegian workers, through the decision of their Trade Union Congress, have adopted the programme which the experience of the Russian workers has shown is the only road to the emancipation of the working-class.—*The Toiler.*

* * * *

As a result of the firm stand taken by the Italian Trades Union and Socialist Conference during the week-end, employers are submitting a scheme affording the Trades Unions some measure of control of the metal industry. The workers are demonstrating their ability to carry on without their masters, so it is not certain that they will accept the employers' offer.

The Secretary of the West London (No. 5) Branch of the Amalgamated Tailors and Garment Workers' Trade Union sends us the following:—

In view of the fact that such "magnificent" wages of from 25s. to 30s. per week are being paid to persons over the age of 18, in the Feather Industry, my Branch demands that the proposed Trade Board be called to meet at once, so that the workers in the industry shall be able to live with some measure of decency. Resolved:—

"That this meeting of members of the West London Branch of the Amalgamated Tailors and Garment Workers' Trade Union, emphatically protests against the continued inaction of the Ministry of Labour in dealing with the proposed Trade Board set up for the Feather Industry, and demands, without further waste of time, that action be immediately taken on behalf of the large number of workers whose scandalous wage is a disgrace to the human race."

BETWEEN OURSELVES.

By L. A. MOTLER.

It is not often that my favourite day-lie treats me to a thoroughbred, 22-carat, Ananias brand piece of truth, but it was there the other day with the port wine and chicken, which form my modest breakfast:

"Three Welsh colliers entered one of the principal hotels of Cheltenham a few days ago and ordered the best dinner the hotel could provide. They began with champagne and finished with champagne. A Neath (South Wales) gentleman, dining near by, was constrained to enquire later the cost of this dinner; it was twelve guineas! All Cheltenham is talking about it."

Happy Cheltenham, to be able to talk about the reckless way the Welsh miners spend their £1,000 a year! Happy hotel proprietor to be able to relieve three Welsh colliers of twelve of the best.

I suppose the best hotels in Cheltenham—and elsewhere—would go bankrupt if it wasn't for an occasional Welsh collier dropping in and treating everybody to drinks all round—champagne, of course. England is a free country, and Yfan Yfans is welcome to skip the border into Cheltenham and make the red paint splash. It is none of our business, and our good, honest press merely mentions the incident as ordinary news. The fact that a miner's strike is in the air is a sheer coincidence, of course!

Champagne, as everybody who reads *John Gull* knows, is a medicine, and it is quite natural that the hard-working miner should have an occasional dose of it, just to enable him to get a strangle-hold on that increased production stunt. Why, I have had champagne myself, and the next day I wrote twice as many letters after a job as I had done the day before.

You see, it's like this. My Uncle Fitzy—his full name is Fitzarthur, but between friends I call him Fitzy—well, he happened to drop round my artist's garret one day when I was unwrapping the kipper from last night's paper. I heard his fairy footfall on the steps (he is fourteen stone), and so I slipped the kipper under the mattress—to keep it warm.

You don't know how glad Uncle was to see me; he said I was looking remarkably well, and the only thing to be done was to come and dine with him. So I knew I was in for it. I looked a sorrowful au revoir at the kipper under the mattress, and followed Fitzy downstairs. He has a motor-car you know, and once when I asked him if it was a Ford, he simply went all over the room, laughing and holding his sides. I did not know there was a joke, but he said it was a good one.

It was at a small and select place, as Uncle Fitzy calls it, that we had lunch—no, I mean dinner. It is hard for me to keep pace with meals, especially as I am a sound sleeper and usually have mine at any old time, without any special name for it.

We began with a cocktail, me and Uncle Fitzy did; he said that was the latest, and that he already had a favourite of his own. He told me what it was composed of: claret, gin, mascherone, rum, and about thirteen other bits, including a squeeze of a lemon. It might have been sour milk for all I knew. That shows what it is to be a common proletarian, who can't get a job. After the cocktail, we made a false start with dinner; it is called hors d'œuvres, and it is just a wee bite of sardines, tomatoes and mashed, to give you an appetite. Then with the soup, and a glass of white wine at your elbow, you may be said to begin dinner properly.

Fish comes next, so we had crab. Or rather we were going to, but Uncle said it was vile, so he sent it away and we had filletted turbot à la something; this is not a French lesson, so I will spare you the menu. We sort of rushed through it, at a snail's gallop, and I told Uncle Fitzy it was like a play.

"Hey?" he asked.

"It's like a play, you know; several years are supposed to elapse between each act."

"Ha, ha, ha!" he gurgled, and poured me out some more wine. But I had had as much as I could carry, what with liqueurs and coffee to come; so I helped myself to a bit of woodcock, and then waded steadily through it all.

Afterwards we lit up our cigars and he expanded himself and said it was good to be alive. I believe he would have fallen into a gentle snooze, but he had an engagement to take somebody to the theatre.

As he drove me home, he told me about the play he was going to see. Strangely enough, it was the same play I was being taken to see by a friend that evening. And I had the pleasure of spotting Uncle Fitzy down in the stalls from my seat in the gallery. (I always choose a seat at the front, so I can have a good look round; some people are themselves better than a play.) He had a big be-ribboned box of chocolates on the seat next to him.

I rather think Uncle Fitzy must be a Welsh collier.

COMMUNIST PARTY

British Section of the Third International.

CONDITIONS OF MEMBERSHIP.—The acceptance of the following points: (1) The complete overthrow of Capitalism and the establishment of Communism. (2) The Class struggle. (3) The Dictatorship of the Proletariat. (4) The Soviet or Revolutionary Workers' Council system. (5) Affiliation to the Third International. (6) Refusal to engage in Parliamentary Action. (7) Non-affiliation to the Labour Party.

MINIMUM WEEKLY SUBSCRIPTION: Threepence. Entry Fee: One Shilling.

Provisional Secretary: EDGAR T. WHITEHEAD, 8, Sinclair Gardens, West Kensington, London, W.14.

Branches' notes and list of meetings, sent in for publication, should reach the Secretary not later than first post Thursday morning.—All articles and news matter (other than Branches' notes) to be sent to: 400, Old Ford Road, Bow, London, E.3. and marked: "The Editor, The Workers' Dreadnought."

The "WORKERS' DREADNOUGHT" may be obtained for sale at 3/- per quire (26 copies). Usual Trade rates for wholesale and retail newsagents.

All Members should make a special effort to see that our paper is on sale and posters displayed at local newsagents, trade union branches, in the workshop and at all public meetings in their districts.

Extracts From Last Week's Post-Bag.

"As Secretary of the Communist Group at Merthyr, I have been asked to let you know that we have fully discussed the Communist Party, B.S.T.I., policy, and finally all agreed to it. We are working to start a strong Communist branch shortly at Merthyr."—H. Griffiths.

* * * * *

"I learned my first lesson in class-consciousness at the feet of Comrades Barker and Joy, of the S.P.G.B., but I now want to join the Communist Party, as I realise that our only hope as wage-slaves lies in an organisation founded on the seven points enunciated as the conditions of membership, with all of which I am in hearty agreement."—W. Wallcer, Croydon.

* * * * *

"Gorton Comrades and ourselves are arranging to work in joint teams on the house-to-house tactics, as we find this by far the most valuable tactics as regards results in educating the workers to Communism."—Frank Elder, Manchester.

* * * * *

"Our branch is now well under way. Although not large in numbers, our members are all picked men."—R. V. Harvey, Birmingham.

* * * * *

"We are in perfect agreement with the principles of your Party. We will discuss the proposed Manchester Convention on Monday next, when we hope to decide in favour of coming within, that we might make for real unity of class-conscious militant workers accepting the fundamentals of the Third International, proclaiming the Soviet system, and, moreover, building up a strong anti-parliamentarian organisation on a Soviet basis."—John Steele, Secretary of the International Communist League (Anti-Parliamentarian).

* * * * *

"I have been doing a week's propaganda at Clydach, Pontadawe, and Swansea districts, finishing up my week's mission with a letter to the Mond Nickel Workers on Industrial Unionism. I have had some fine meetings, and it is splendid to see the desires of the workers for revolutionary lectures. Please write to the following comrades . . . and mention my name, asking them to form Groups attached to the Communist Party, B.S.T.I. I am sure they will willingly do this."—Tom Dingley (ex-N.A.C. Shop Stewards).

* * * * *

"I had a good chat with a crowd of comrades at a C.L.C. Conference at Cardiff yesterday, and I may say that the feeling is all our way. Excuse me for not writing sooner, but I have been doing a lot of typing for the Rhondda Council of *No*-Action. I suppose it is popular just now. We are using it to kill Trades and Labour Councils and the Rhondda Labour Party, and we are in a fair way of doing so."—D. A. Davies, Porth.

MONEY URGENTY NEEDED!

The Day of Revolution draws rapidly nearer. A good deal of Spade Work—Unceasing Propaganda—is still necessary to mould opinion. The Party work and propaganda urgently needs funds. What we require is MONEY—NOW!

Please remit donations to Communist Funds to:

PERCY WALLIS: *Hon. Treasurer.*
18, Angel Road, Hammersmith, W.6.

LONDON MEETINGS: OUTDOOR.

Whitechapel.
Osborne Street. Sunday, 19th, at 11.45 a.m. Mrs. Walker.

Poplar.
Dock Gates. Sunday, 19th, at 7 p.m. Mrs. Walker.

Camberwell.
Grove Lane. Friday, 17th, at 7.30.
Hanover Park, Rye Lane. Saturday, 18th, at 7.30. J. Nicholson.

Peckham.
Peckham Rye. Sunday, 19th, at 11 a.m. J. Nicholson.

Soho.
The Broadway, Golden Square. Every Thursday at 8 p.m. Comrades Cornwallis and Davidson in charge.

Hammersmith.
The Grove. Every Thursday at 8 p.m.

Willesden.
Manor Park Road, near Willesden Junction Station. Every Friday at 7.30 p.m.

Bow.
St. Stephen's Road. Every Saturday at 5 p.m. Mrs. Walker.

INDOOR BRANCH MEETINGS.

City of London.
International Socialist Club, 28, East Road, City Road, N.1. Study Circle every Wednesday at 8 p.m. All interested are invited.
International Socialist Club, 28, East Road, City Road, N.1. Every Friday at 8 p.m. Secretary: S. Ginsburg, c/o I.S.C.

Soho International.
58, Old Compton Street, Soho, W. Every Wednesday at 8 p.m. prompt.

Bow.
400, Old Ford Road. Every Thursday at 7.30 p.m.

Poplar.
20, Railway Street. Every Thursday at 8 p.m.

Camberwell.
16, Peckham Road. Monday, 20th, at 7.45 p.m.

Hull.
Argyle House, Aulaly Road. Every Wednesday night at 8 p.m.

"The Barking Branch wishes the Manchester Conference to consider the possibilities of a Communist daily paper. In these times of rapidly following events, the workers should have a real Communist lead daily, in their struggle for the overthrow of Capitalism."—D. Roodzant, Barking.

* * * *

"Was very pleased you took up Hansen's challenge, and I think you carried the audience with you in the ten minutes he gave you on the necessity of belonging to an organisation. I was very impressed with the show you put up, and must congratulate you."—F. C. Davies, Hammersmith (ex-Secretary *Herald* League Branch).

* * *

MISSIONARY ACTIVITY.

"I have completed two hundred miles of my tramp. Held five meetings at Coventry, one at Nuneaton, five in Leicester. Now on to Mansfield. All going well."—Fred Tyler.

* * *

"Comrade Harvey and I have put in a good week's work in Brum. It is about three centuries behind the times—what one would expect in a city that sends 100 per cent. Tory representatives. Still, we are quite satisfied, considering all things. Am off to Bristol in the morning."—R. Bishop.

GRATEFULLY ACKNOWLEDGED.

G. H. Baylis 5s, Hull Comrades £1 19s 8d, Miss Tighe 2s 6d, Portsmouth Comrades 5s 4d, Manchester Comrades £1 14s, Camberwell Comrades £1, Gorton Comrades £2 1s, J. Hill 10s, Comrades Kent and Biddle 1s, A. J. Franks 2s 6d, Jorgensen 1s, Ivermee 1s, Joe 1s, Joe's Better Half 1s, D. Austin 1s.

COMRADES IN THE BOROUGH.

A BRANCH OF THE PARTY is being FORMED for ALL COMRADES living in the Borough, S.E. INAUGURAL MEETING, to which all enquirers are INVITED, THURSDAY, SEPT. 16th, at 8 p.m.—Trades and Labour Hall, Blackfriars Road, S.E.

Please fill in, and either hand to your local Branch Secretary, or post direct to EDGAR T. WHITEHEAD, Provisional Secretary of the Communist Party, 8, Sinclair Gardens, London, W. 14.

I wish to join the Communist Party, British Section of the Third International, and declare my adherence to the seven main principles of the Party.

Name .....

Address .....

.....

Printed at the Agenda Press (T.U.), 10, Wine Office Court, London, E.C.4, and Published by the Communist Party at 152, Fleet Street, London, E.C.4.